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JOHN HOWARD LAWSON

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AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

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3-18-88
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SP5 ASG/CLM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES
RE: PAUL ROBESON
IS - C

Classified by 9145 JF/agf
Declassify on: OADR
4-24-86

LA 4028 PSI advised 11/26/57 that JOHN HOWARD LAWSON on 11/20/57 at 800 South Plymouth Boulevard, Los Angeles, in a lecture series on American Culture under his own auspices, stated he has written a play and has discussed it with PAUL ROBESON, having in mind ROBESON playing the lead. This they decided would have to be played for a select audience and ROBESON feels it is not worth the effort.

LAWSON has been identified by numerous former members of the Communist Party (CP) during course of sworn testimonies for House Committee on Un-American Activities as having been a key figure in the CP apparatus in motion picture industry during 1940s.

DECLASSIFIED BY 5668-SLD/mch
ON 7-7-95 (SFK)

- 4 - Bureau
(3 - 100-12304) (PAUL ROBESON)
(1 - 100-370750) (JOHN LAWSON)
2 - New York
(1 - 100-25857) (PAUL ROBESON)
(1 - 100-80918) (JOHN LAWSON)
3 - Los Angeles
(1 - 100-25361) (PAUL ROBESON)
(1 - 100-23198) (JOHN LAWSON)
(1 - 100-15732) (CONF/LIC)

TWC:ELH
(9)

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
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55 DEC 5 1957

NOV 178 DEC 3 1957

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-13304-431

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LA 100-25261

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(S)(u) (c) LA 2954-S on 5/22/56, advised SA H. RAWLINS OVERTON that on 5/12/56 HOWARD LAWSON attended a special committee meeting of CP members at 1251 South St. Andrews Place, Los Angeles. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the formation of a CP educational apparatus in the Los Angeles area. (S)

Above information is furnished as possible indication of ROBESON's defection from CP cause.

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